

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

ATLANTIC RECORDING CORPORATION,)	
)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:15-cv-13333
vs.)	
)	
JOHN DOES 1-100, individuals, JANE DOES 1-100, individuals, and XYZ COMPANY, business entity form unknown, inclusive,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	

**COMPLAINT FOR TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT AND
VIOLATIONS OF THE LANHAM ACT**

Plaintiff Atlantic Recording Corporation, files this complaint against defendants, alleging as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This action arises under the Lanham Trademark Act 15 U.S.C. §§ 1051 et seq. (the "Lanham Act"). Accordingly, this Court has federal question jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1221 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1338(a), (b). Venue in this district is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b).

PARTIES

2. Atlantic Recording Corporation ("Plaintiff") is a New York corporation with its principal place of business in New York, New York.

3. Defendants John Does 1-100, Jane Does 1-100 and XYZ Company who are sued herein under fictitious names because their true names and capacities are

unknown at this time. This complaint will be amended when their true names and capacities are ascertained.

4. Upon information and belief, the defendants will be present in and about the District of Massachusetts in connection with the claims asserted below and are or will be subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.

5. Defendants, and each of them, are individuals and business entities who, upon information and belief, are acting in concert and active participation with each other in committing the wrongful acts alleged herein. Defendants John Does 1-100, Jane Does 1-100, and XYZ Company are hereinafter referred to collectively as "Defendants."

THE BACKGROUND OF THE ACTION

6. Plaintiff is engaged in the manufacture, distribution and sale of various types of merchandise sold and distributed at concerts and at retail stores of musical performers, including tour and program books, T-shirts, jerseys, sweatshirts, hats, buttons and posters (collectively "Merchandise") which embody the trademarks, service marks, likenesses, logos and other indicia of various musical performers.

7. **"TWENTY ONE PILOTS"** (the "Group") is the trademark used by this group in connection with the Group's performing, recording, merchandising and other related goods in all aspects of the entertainment industry and to distinguish the Group's services from all other such groups. The Group has used its trademarks in connection with their recording and performing services for approximately 6 years. The Group's **"TWENTY ONE PILOTS"** trademark is federally registered:



Registration Number 4374449, for International Class 41, entertainment services.

8. Pursuant to an agreement between the Group and Plaintiff (the "Agreement"), Plaintiff possesses the exclusive right to utilize all federally registered trademarks, service marks, likenesses, logos, and other indicia of the Group (collectively, the "Group's Trademarks") on and in connection with Merchandise ("Tour Merchandise") sold and offered for sale in the vicinity of the Group's concerts on the Group's present North American concert tour (the "Tour").

9. The Group has a decidedly strong and loyal following among those who attend popular music concerts and record buyers. The Group has appeared in concerts at major arenas and stadiums in the United States, Canada, and throughout the world and the Group has been seen and heard in concert by millions of popular music enthusiasts. The Group has sold over 20 million units of recordings.

10. As a result of the foregoing, the Group's Trademarks have developed and now possess secondary and distinctive meaning to purchasers of the Tour Merchandise bearing any or all of the Group's Trademarks. Plaintiff and the Group annually realize substantial income from the sale of the Tour Merchandise bearing the Group's Trademarks, and hundreds of thousands of such items have been sold throughout the United States.

11. On September 12, 2015, at the Blue Hills Bank Pavilion in Boston, Massachusetts, the Group will perform (the "Concert").

12. Pursuant to the Agreement, Plaintiff will sell and distribute clothing and other Tour Merchandise bearing any or all of the Group's Trademarks at or near the site of the Concert and at all other arenas and stadiums in which the Tour will perform. The authorized Tour Merchandise bearing any or all of the Group's Trademarks will be distributed throughout the United States in connection with the Tour.

DEFENDANTS' UNLAWFUL CONDUCT

13. Defendants have begun selling and distributing unauthorized T-shirts, jerseys, caps and/or other merchandise bearing any or all of the Group's Trademarks (the "Unauthorized Merchandise") in the vicinity of the Group's concerts and will continue to sell and distribute before, during and after the Concert, and at subsequent concerts during the Tour.

14. The Unauthorized Merchandise is of the same general appearance as Plaintiff's Merchandise and is likely to cause confusion among prospective purchasers. Defendants' Unauthorized Merchandise is not authorized by the Group or Plaintiff.

15. The Unauthorized Merchandise sold and to be sold by Defendants is generally of inferior quality. The sale of such merchandise has injured and is likely to injure the Plaintiff's reputation for high quality goods.

16. The aforesaid acts by Defendants and others are likely to cause the purchasing public to believe that the sale of such Unauthorized Merchandise is authorized, sponsored or approved by the Group and/or Plaintiff and that such Unauthorized Merchandise is subject to the same quality control and regulation required

by the Group and/or Plaintiff, despite the fact that this is not true. It also injures Group and Plaintiff in that Defendants do not have to pay any royalty for these unlawful sales.

17. The aforesaid manufacture, distribution and sale of Unauthorized Merchandise bearing the trademarks, service marks, likenesses, logos and other indicia of the Group constitutes a false designation of the source of origin of such goods and falsely describes and represents such merchandise. The use by Defendants and others of the Group's Trademark also constitutes an attempt to palm off and appropriate to themselves the Group's and Plaintiff's exclusive rights therein.

18. Upon information and belief, Defendants and others have and will continue to engage in such unauthorized activities in this state and elsewhere in interstate commerce and are likely to continue such activities throughout the Tour, to the great injury of Plaintiff and the Group.

19. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law and will suffer irreparable harm and damage as a result of the aforesaid acts, in an amount presently incalculable.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF
(Infringement of Registered Trademark)

20. Plaintiff realleges each allegation set forth in the paragraphs above.

21. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff hereby asserts a claim against Defendants for injunctive and monetary relief pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1114(b) with respect to Defendants' infringement of the registered mark.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF
(Violation of the Lanham Act)

22. Plaintiff realleges each allegation set forth in the paragraphs above.

23. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff hereby asserts a claim against Defendants for injunctive and monetary relief pursuant to Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a), with regards to the false designation of origin and false descriptions and representations in commerce of Defendants' Unauthorized Merchandise.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff seeks relief against Defendants as follows:

A. As to All Claims For Relief, that Defendants, their agents, servants, employees, officers, attorneys, successors and assigns, and all persons acting in concert with them, be enjoined in this and all other judicial districts in the United States, preliminarily during the course of this litigation and permanently from: 1) manufacturing, distributing, selling, offering for sale, holding for sale or advertising any products, merchandise or goods bearing the name, trademark, or likeness of the Group or any colorable variation or imitation thereof; and 2) representing that any products, merchandise or goods manufactured, distributed, sold, held for sale or advertised by them is sponsored or authorized by Plaintiff in this district or in any other district in which Plaintiff seeks to enforce this Court's injunction order.

B. As to All Claims For Relief, that this Court order the United States Marshal, the local and state police or sheriff, off duty officers of the same, authorized agents of Plaintiff, and/or any persons acting under their supervision to seize and impound any and all Unauthorized Merchandise which the Defendants attempt to sell, distribute or hold for sale at, within or in the vicinity of the arenas at which the Group is performing, whether this occurs before, during or after the concerts on the Tour.

C. That Defendants deliver up for destruction all Unauthorized Merchandise.

D. As to All Claims For Relief, that Defendants pay to Plaintiff damages in an amount to be determined.

E. As to All Claims For Relief, that Plaintiff be awarded its costs, attorney's fees and such other and further relief as the Court deems to be just and proper.

Dated: September 10, 2014

Respectfully Submitted
ATLANTIC RECORDING
CORPORATION
By Its Attorneys
/s/ M. Lawrence Oliverio
M. Lawrence Oliverio, Esq., BBO #378755
Novak Druce Connolly Bove and Quigg, LLP
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 2101
Boston, Massachusetts 02114
Tel: (617) 367-4600; Fax: (617) 367-4656

Cara R. Burns, Esq., Cal. Bar # 137557
Hicks, Mims, Kaplan & Burns
2800 28th Street, Suite 383
Santa Monica, California 90405
Tel: (310) 314-1721; Fax: (310) 314-1725